(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has got constructed private godowns for the storage of foodgrains;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been reached with the owners of such godowns;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Food Corporation of India had recommended disbursal of bank loans for these constructions;

(e) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(f) whether any dispute regarding disbursement of loan is pending with the court; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. In 1976, the Food Corporation of India had encouraged construction of godowns through private parties under the Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation (ARDC) scheme.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The agreement was executed with the private parties for construction of godowns under the ARDC scheme. The initial hiring period was 5 years from the date of take over of godowns by FCI at the fixed rent of 40 paise & 50 paise per sq. ft. per month in rural and urban areas respectively with the option to extend the lease for further period of 1 year at the same terms and conditions.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Under the above scheme the parties, with whom agreements were executed were required to invest atleast 25% of the construction cost besides having land in their possession. The balance 75% was given to them as loan by the Commercial Banks at a concessional rate of interest of 11% per annum on the recommendation of FCI. The amount of loan paid under this scheme by the Banks was reimbursed by ARDC.

(f) and (g). The loan was not disbursed by the FCI. However there was no dispute regarding tenancy of occupation or payment of rent with any of the parties during the agreed contractual period of 5 years.

Stoppage of Entry of Foreign Print media

3283. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three national organisations of newspaper employees, the All India Newspaper Employees Federation, Federation of the PTI Employees Unions, and the UNI Employees Federation, have submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister on June 27, 1996 demanding the stoppage of entry of foreign media; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

In their memorandum dated 27th June, '96, submitted to the Prime Minister, the All India Newspaper Employees Federation, Federation of the PTI Employees Unions and the UNI Employees Federation, have raised various issues, which are briefly given below:—

Points raised in the memorandum

(i) Entry of foreign print media and need for legislation to implement recommendation of Second Press Commission.

(ii) Curbing electronic media's unrestricted flow into India.

(iii) Probe into clandestine tie-ups, alleged to have taken place between foreign and Indian newspapers and TV outfits.

(iv) Curbing foreign electronic media's subversive propaganda against India's ethos.

Comments/reactions of the Government

(i) The Government continues to be guided by the Cabinet Decision of 1955 which prohibits (a) publication of foreign newspapers/periodicals in the country and (b) publication of Indian editions of foreign newspapers/periodicals dealing mainly with news and current affairs.

(ii) At present, no private party is permitted to set-up radio/television transmitter in the country. Similarly, no private party is permitted uplinking facility from the Indian soil. As such, no foreign entry in the broadcasting field is allowed under the existing policy. The foreign satellite channels which are received in India are being beamed from outside the territory of India.

(iii) In the absence of any specific complaint, no comments can be given.

(iv) In order to meet the challenges posed by the foreign electronic media, Doordarshan is endeavouring on a continuing basis to bring about a qualitative improvement in its channels through a phased expansion of its terrestrial network, introduction of the latest state of the art equipments and by providing a wholesome fare of predominantly Indian programming at the national and regional levels so as to sustain and increase the interest of the viewers in their programmes. Similarly, all films intended for public exhibitions in India are examined and certified by the Central Board of Film Certification in accordance with the provisions of Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder.

[Translation]

Export and Import of Sugar

3284. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of sugar exported and imported during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the countries to which the sugar was exported and from where it was imported during the above period; and

(c) the per metric tonne price of the sugar imported and exported?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) The quantity of sugar exported and imported during the Financial Years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under:-

(Quantity in lakh tonnes)

Financial Year	Quantity exported (including Nepal)	Quantity imported
1993-94	3.32 (P)	Nil
1994-95	0.35 (P)	9.76* (P)
1995-96	4.49 (P)	1.99 (P)

* It does not include the sugar imported by Private Parties under Open General Licence (OGL) for sale in the open market.

(b) The names of the countries to which the sugar was exported and from where it was imported during the above period are given in the statement attached.

(c) Average per metric tonne prices of sugar exported and imported are as under:—

Financial Year	Price of sugar exported (in rupees PMT)	Price of sugar imported (in US $ PMT, C & F)
1993-94	Rs. 8834.34 (P)	Nil
1994-95	Rs. 8702.86 (P)	US $ 387.13 (P)
1995-96	Rs. 13680.32 (P)	US $ 422.93 (P)
	(P) means provisional	

STATEMENT

Statement showing names of the countries to which the sugar was exported and from where it was imported during financial years 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96

Countries to which sugar was exported

Somalia, Angola, Srilanka, Kenya, Yemen, Dubai, Egypt, Bangladesh, Iraq, Slovakia, France, Russia, USA, Nepal, EEC, Indonesia, Maldives, Eritrea, Aden, Myamnar, etc.

Countries from where sugar was imported

Thailand, Netherland, U.K., Poland, France, USA, Brazil, Turkey, Belgium, Columbia, etc.

[English]

Constitution of Tribal Development Council

3285. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to constitute another Tribal Development Council on the lines of Dhebar Commission as per Constitutional Provision in this regard to review the socio-economic condition of the tribals in the scheduled areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said council is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (c). It has been decided to set up a Commission on the lines of Dhebar Commission under Article 339(1) of the Constitution. The Commission will have seven Members including the Chairman and Member Secretary. Chairman of the Commission will be from amongst the Scheduled Tribes and atleast half of the Members of the Commission would be eminent persons from amongst the Scheduled Tribes. The Headquarters of the proposed Commission will be in or around tribal area.